Claims

[c1]   A mailing machine comprising:

a processor;

a first memory portion operatively connected to the processor for storing a primary rate database;

a second memory portion operatively connected to the processor for storing temporary rate data;

a third memory portion operatively connected to the processor for storing rating instruction data; and

wherein the processor determines a rate applicability determination using the rating instruction data, the primary rate database and the temporary rate data.

[c2]   The mailing machine of claim 1 further comprising:

a fourth memory portion operatively connected to the processor for storing usage data; and

wherein the processor determines a rate determination using the rating instruction data and usage data and determines a rate applicability determination using the rate determination and the primary rate database.

[c3]   The mailing machine of claim 2 wherein:

the temporary rate data comprises a temporary rate database having expiration data; and

wherein the processor determines a rate applicability determination further using the temporary rate database.

[c4]   The mailing machine of claim 3 wherein,

a portion of the rate determination is received from an external processor and stored in the temporary rate database.

[c5]   The mailing machine of claim 2 further comprising:

a fifth memory portion operatively connected to the processor for storing customer data.

[c6]   The mailing machine of claim 5 wherein:

at least a portion of the customer data is obtained utilizing a cookie.

[c7]   The mailing machine of claim 4 wherein:

at least a portion of the customer data is obtained utilizing a cookie; and

at least a portion of the rate determination is received from an external processor that received the cookie.

[c8]   The mailing machine of claim 2 wherein:

the temporary rate data is cleared periodically.

[c9]   The mailing machine of claim 8 wherein:

the period for clearing the temporary rate data is every 24 hours.

[c10]   A mailing machine comprising:

means for processing instructions and data;

a first memory means for storing a primary rate database for access by the processing means;

a second memory means for storing temporary rate data for access by the processing means;

a third memory means for storing rating instruction data for access by the processing means; and

wherein the processing means includes means for determining a rate applicability determination using the rating instruction data, the primary rate database and the temporary rate data.

[c11]   The mailing machine of claim 10 further comprising:

a fourth memory means for storing usage data for access by the processing means; and

wherein the processing means includes means for determining a rate determination using the rating instruction data and usage data and for determining a rate applicability determination using the rate determination and the primary rate database.

[c12]

A method for dynamically changing rating information for at least one customer comprising:

receiving customer usage data for a plurality of customers;

receiving customer data for a plurality of customers;

obtaining logistics data for a mailing logistics system;

determining desired volume changes by class;

targeting at least one customer having a mailing machine for a discount in the class;

creating a temporary rate database; and

sending the temporary rate database to the mailing machine.

[c13]   The method of claim 12 further comprising:

receiving data relating to customer usage of the discount; and

determining whether to adjust the discount.

[c14]   A method for determining temporary rate data using a mailing machine comprising:

obtaining rating instruction data;

obtaining usage data; and

processing the rating instruction data and usage data to determine a rate determination.

[c15]   The method of claim 14 further comprising:

obtaining primary rate data; and

processing the primary rate data to determine a rate applicability determination.

[c16]   A method for determining targeted incentives using a carrier information system having feedback comprising:

obtaining customer usage and customer data;

determining whether an incentive is desired;

determining whether a customer is eligible for an incentive;

offering the customer an incentive;

obtaining incentive related usage data; and

analyzing the incentive related usage data to determine effectivity, determining whether to modify the incentive.

[c17]   The method of claim 16 wherein:

the customer usage data is obtained from a mailing machine.

[c18]   The method of claim 16 wherein:

the incentive is a time based discount for at least one particular class of mail.

[c19]   The method of claim 16 wherein:
the incentive is a penalty.

[c20]   The method of claim 16 wherein:
determining whether an incentive is desired includes, analyzing historical usage
data, analyzing partial period usage data, forecasting capacity demands and
targeting at least one customer likely to require the applicable mailing services
to be discounted.